

**Declines to Support the Administration's Pro-British Policy
—Says That a Nobler, Braver or More God-Fearing
People Than the Boers Never Lived.**

Say, It Was Demanded.
These Republicans seek to brow beat the force of the resignation by asserting that it principally was demanded for other reasons. It set forth by them that Davis went to the Ohio election with the leave of absence, with the understanding that his official duties were at an end in December. They refer to the friction existing between the two gentlemen in connection with pension matters and say that as soon as the Ohio election was decided it was concluded that he should be made acquainted with the pension law. The pension was not longer wanted in the Interior Department. Undoubtedly there have been awkward relations between Mr. Davis and Commissioner Burton. But Mr. Davis, the latter complained that Mr. Davis overruled many of his decisions adverse to pension

ter a most cordial reception tendered me jointly by the Governor and Governor-elect of the Portuguese Province of Pernambuco, I telegraphed to the Secretary Reitz of the South African Republic inviting me to become the guest of the Government and that President Kruger of the Orange Free State. In Florida, I accepted this hospitality, just as I had accepted the hospitality of the British officials at Cape Town and of the American officials at Jacksonville.

At Pretoria I was given a most hearty reception. Secretary Reitz and the other Government officials met me at the station and I was taken to the Government residence. A considerable time in the Orange Free State and the South African Republic, saw much of the Boer people, in the cities, on the farms, in the public buildings, and in the open air. On the way to the front and on the battlefields and I soon concluded that the people in the world had ever been so kind and so generous to a stranger as the Boer people. A kinder hearted, a more generous or nobler people cannot be found anywhere.

Not wishing to embarrass the administration of the Orange Free State, I declined in order that I may feel free to stay on

London, April 2.—In the House of Commons to-day, answering a question on the subject, the Government leader, Mr. Balfour, confirmed the statement that Premier Schreiner had expressed an objection to the removal of the Boer prisoners to the island of St. Helena. The Government, he added, had fully considered the objection, but was unable to alter its policy of sending a certain number of the prisoners to St. Helena. He explained that this policy was partially dictated by military consid-

the latter report concerning "barracking" that Colonel Baden-Powell has been told by Lord Roberts that he must hold out until May 24, almost two months longer. It is doubtful whether there is any truth in this report and still more doubtful whether the garrison could resist that length of time. A dispatch from Pretoria states that fighting occurred on Saturday around the town and that Colonel Plumer had to retire with loss.

ALSO LOST HIS BAGGAGE.

London, April 2.—The War Office reports

BIG BOER FORCES.
Kimberley, Sunday, April 1.—There is great Boer activity along the Vaal River, about 6,000 burghers have assembled at various points between Fourteen Streams and Christiana. About 700 men are occupying Witrand, north of Klipdam, and 400 men are laagered at Bootsap.

BATTLE AROUND NAFEEKING.
Pretoria, Sunday, April 1.—Cannooding

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